



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **WM-8**

May 23, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DOMINGUEZ WATERSHED MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN
AWARD OF CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 2 AND 4
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Award and authorize the Director of Public Works to execute an agreement with MEC Analytical Systems, Inc., to prepare the Dominguez Watershed Management Master Plan (DWMMP) in cooperation with the Dominguez Watershed Advisory Council for a not to exceed fee of \$270,000 to be funded through Proposition 13 Grant Funds and Flood Control District Funds and establish the effective date following Board approval.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Dominguez Watershed includes all or portions of the Cities of Inglewood, Hawthorne, Gardena, Lawndale, Los Angeles, Torrance, Carson, Lomita, Rolling Hills Estates, Rolling Hills, Palos Verdes Estates, and Rancho Palos Verdes as well as small portions of unincorporated County areas. The DWMMP will describe the environmental and physical state of the watershed, address issues of importance in the watershed, and propose watershed management projects that will protect and enhance its environment and beneficial uses.

Watershed management encompasses a wide variety of projects that provide flood protection, water quality improvement, recreation, and habitat enhancements. MEC has assembled a team of individuals with expertise in the various aspects of watershed management to generate the DWMMP.

Following completion of the DWMMP, which is tentatively scheduled for December 2003, we plan to return to your Board to adopt and support implementation of the DWMMP.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The creation of the DWMMP is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Organizational Effectiveness and Fiscal Responsibility by fostering public and private partnerships and collaboration across jurisdictional boundaries.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

On April 30, 2002, your Board approved and signed a Resolution with the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to receive reimbursable grant funding of \$200,000 and authorized the Director of Public Works to enter into a contract with the SWRCB for this study.

The agreement for the creation of the DWMMP is for a not to exceed fee of \$270,000, including \$17,817 for contingencies. The County will contribute \$70,000 from the Flood Control District, and the State, through Proposition 13, will contribute \$200,000. Sufficient funds to cover the District's share have been allocated in the Fiscal Year 2001-2002 Flood Control District Fund. Additional work within this allowance will not be performed without prior written authorization from the Director of Public Works.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The contracting process followed Public Works' standard procedures and complied with your Board's required provisions and legal requirements. A standard agreement, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination, renegotiation, and hiring qualified displaced County employees will be included.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the Agreement stating that the consultant shall notify its employees, and shall require each subconsultant to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

As requested by your Board on August 12, 1997, and as a threshold requirement for consideration for award of this agreement, MEC is willing to consider Greater Avenues for Independence Program participants for future employment. MEC Analytical Systems, Inc., is in full compliance with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.200 (Child Support Compliance Program).

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Awarding this Agreement will have no environmental impact. Any project that may be proposed in the DWMMP and pursued for construction or implementation will undergo the appropriate environmental review.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On October 22, 2001, Public Works sent out requests for proposals to 15 firms from a Public Works list of qualified consultants. The proposal was also advertised on the Office of Small Business website and placed in certain publications. On November 20, 2001, six proposals were deemed qualified for evaluation.

An Evaluation Committee evaluated these proposals based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. The Evaluation Committee consisted of Public Work's engineering staff as well as representatives from the City of Los Angeles, Port of Long Beach, Western States Petroleum Association, SWRCB, and National Audubon Society.

The proposals were evaluated and the top four firms were invited for a formal proposal and interview. The selection was done without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. The interviews were conducted on January 31, 2002, at which time the Evaluation Committee selected MEC Analytical Systems, Inc., as the best qualified firm. The negotiated fees have been reviewed by Public Works and are considered reasonable for the services provided.

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Participation by Community Business Enterprise (CBE) in the Project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith effort to utilize CBEs. MEC is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and their proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no adverse impact on current services.

CONCLUSION

Please return three approved copies of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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A:\Dominguez Master Plan contract.wpd

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN)